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## **Exponent, Vol. 43, Iss. 5, 2011-10-13**

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# The Exponent

The Student Newspaper of UAH

Volume 43, Issue 5

October 13, 2011

## ARTS & LEISURE BRIEFS

This semester there are three productions in the works for UAH Theatre. These include an opera, a play and a benefit concert, all of which are brought about by the head of the theatre department, David Harwell. The productions for this semester are "The Consul," an opera about a woman whose husband is arrested for being a political activist.

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## SPORTS BRIEFS

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Since 1996, Coach Les Stuedeman has led a strong softball program at UAH, and during the offseason, the team plays as many games as possible for practice. Due to NCAA regulations, UAH is not allowed to play fellow Division II teams during the fall, so the team plays schools from Division I, III, NAIA and community colleges. During this fall's offseason, the team started off with two 9-2 wins against Motlow State Community College on Sept. 24.

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## Theory of Relativity Challenged by Controversial Experiment

JONATHAN KEENUM  
Staff Writer

In 1905, the great scientist Albert Einstein proposed his famous theory of special relativity. This theory states that particles cannot travel faster than the speed of light and has been a foundation for modern physics since its inception.

That theory may now be in jeopardy.

Scientists at the European Organization for Nuclear Research laboratory in the Franco-Swiss border recently shot neutrinos a distance of 730 kilometers, or about 454 miles, to Italy's National Institute for Nuclear Physics Gran Sasso laboratory. The speed was measured during this process and turned out to be 20 parts per million faster than the speed of light, a result that was previously thought to be impossible.

The extremely surprising results of the Oscillation Project with Emulsion-tracking Apparatus experiment will make anyone wonder about its accuracy, but scientists have noted that the experiment, which took three years to complete, was performed with extreme precision. The error reported is an uncertainty of just 20 centimeters over the entire 730 kilometer range

the neutrinos travelled. CERN also made use of advanced GPS systems and atomic clocks, allowing researching to determine the exact speed to an accuracy of fewer than 10 nanoseconds.

The results have the physics world talking, with most of the community being highly skeptical of the findings.

"Fundamentally, I think the OPERA experiment is wrong," said Barry Blumenfeld, an experimental physicist at Hopkins University, who is involved with experiments at CERN. "In fact, I haven't yet met any physicist who believes the result."

More research is underway, including an experiment called MINOS that shoots neutrinos from Chicago to Minnesota. The uncertainties in the experiment were deemed too large and gave inconclusive results, but scientists now want to repeat MINOS in the near future.

This is not the first claim that science broke the speed of light. In 2007, a group of teachers and students transmitted sound pulses faster than light travels. The sound pulses, however, traveled through a medium and conform to Einstein's theory of relativity, which states nothing can go faster than light

through a vacuum. Scientists determined that this faster than light acoustic effect probably happens all the time but goes unnoticed. Physicist William Robertson at Middle Tennessee State University offers an explanation:

"When a sound source is located near a hard wall, some sound reaches the listener directly from the source, whereas some sound travels the longer path that bounces the sound off the wall," Robertson said. "The sounds recombine at the listener."

The weakness of the signals means that humans would never be able to hear this effect. This does not mean that people can send information faster than light but could still have future engineering applications.

The CERN experiment stands out because it completely breaks Einstein's theory. Quantum field theory is the mathematical theory on which all particle physics results are based. If these results prove Einstein was wrong, science would have to completely rewrite and restudy this theory. This would have broad-ranging implications, including bringing back the discussion of what Einstein deemed impossible through special relativity - traveling back in time.

## Flu Shots Available on Campus for Only \$10

KATSUNORI SUGIHARA  
Staff Writer

The Student Health Center is providing flu shots in University Center 203. There are 200 flu shots available only for students at \$10. The SHC staff will administer the shots on a first-come, first-served basis.

The flu shots available on campus this year have vaccines to cover Influenza Type A (H1N1 type), Influenza Type A (H3N2 type) and Influenza Type B (H1N1 type). Both seasonal and swine flu are covered by just one flu shot.

Students can make an appointment by telephone to get their flu shots, or they can drop by the SHC office. Payment is made at the bursar's office, and all forms of payment are accepted. Students are required to show their student ID cards when they have flu shots.

Flu shots are recommended every year. According to the website for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the start and peak of flu activity depends on numerous factors. In the U.S., the flu sea-

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## Orion Spacecraft Completes Parachute Testing, Construction Begins

JONATHAN KEENUM  
Staff Writer

The Orion spacecraft has taken its next step in becoming NASA's next exploration vehicle by proving successful in the first of a series of flight-like parachute tests.

The drop tests took place at the U.S. Army's Yuma Proving Grounds in Arizona and supports the design and development of the Orion parachute assembly. A drop-test article flying at 25,000 feet was deployed from a C-130 aircraft, mimicking the Orion parachute compartment. Once the article was airborne, two drogue chutes were deployed at 19,000 feet, followed by three pilot parachutes that finally deployed three main landing parachutes. The article hit the desert ground at about 25 feet per second, or just over 17 mph.

This recent test was the closest simulation to date as to what the actual Orion parachute landing phase will be like during a return from space.

The original Orion spacecraft was developed by Lockheed Martin and was a part of the Constellation program in 2005. Orion was planned to be a Crew Exploration

Vehicle and carry a crew of four astronauts. The spacecraft was ready to be launched by the Ares I launch vehicle in October 2010, but with the cancellation of the Constellation Program, the Ares program ended and the original Orion had to be redone.

Orion was retooled and renamed the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle in May 2011. This vehicle will be designed to handle crewed missions to an asteroid and Mars in the future and will serve as a backup vehicle for cargo and crewed missions to the ISS.

Construction of the new Orion began just a few weeks ago and has workers very excited.

"This marks the beginning of NASA's next step to send humans far beyond Earth orbit," said Orion program manager Mark Geyer. "With this milestone, we enter the home stretch toward our first trip to space in this new vehicle."

The revamped Orion program is full of optimism despite the surprising cancellation of the Constellation Program last year. With construction underway and the first successful parachute test, it looks like there will be plenty more good news in the near future.

## Go Pink - October Is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

STEPHANIE DAVIDSON  
Staff Writer

If you've been out shopping lately, you may have noticed that things are a little pinker than usual. That's because October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Why would there be an entire month dedicated to educating people about breast cancer and raising money to find a cure? Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among women, second only to skin cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, over 192,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed among women in the U.S. this year, and almost two thousand new cases among men. The disease will claim over forty thousand women this year. There are about 2.5 million survivors in the U.S. alone.

Breast cancer is a malignant tumor that grows in one or both of the breasts and usually develops in the ducts or lobules. There are two main categories of breast cancer: non-invasive and invasive. Non-invasive is confined to the ducts or lobules and doesn't spread to the surrounding tissue.

Invasive cancer, also called

infiltrating cancer, penetrates the normal tissue and infects the surrounding areas. The most common kind of invasive breast cancer is invasive ductal carcinoma. It accounts for about 80 percent of all breast cancer cases.

Even if several different people have the same kind of breast cancer, they may not be the same case. There are different sizes of tumors and stages of illness. Knowing these factors is the best way to begin to know what treatment a person with breast cancer will need.

The system most commonly used to describe breast cancer stages is the American Joint Committee on Cancer/Tumor-Nodes-Metastases. The AJCC/TNM system factors in tumor size, area affected and its size, and whether or not the cancer is spreading. The information is combined to form stage groupings.

The stages are represented by Roman numerals and are I through IV. Some of the stages are then divided with letters to denote what they are. Typically the lower the number, the less the cancer has

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## New Season for UAH Theatre Includes Shakespeare, Opera and Benefit Concert

STEPHANIE DAVIDSON  
Staff Writer

This semester there are three productions in the works for UAH Theatre. These include an opera, a play and a benefit concert, all of which are brought about by the head of the theatre department, David Harwell.

The productions for this semester are "The Consul," an opera about a woman whose husband is arrested for being a political activist. She must speak to the consul to attempt to free him but runs into difficulties along the way. It will run Oct. 26, 28 and 30 at 7 p.m. in Wilson Theatre.

"The Opera Cowboy," Eric Jordan, is performing for a benefit concert on Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. in Wilson Theatre. According to The New York Times, his "powerful, nuanced singing and thoughtful acting amounted to a wholly remarkable portrayal."

From Nov. 16-19 at 7:30 p.m. and at 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 20, the Chan Auditorium will host Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors." The shortest of Shakespeare's plays, it's a story about a set of identical twins separated at birth and what happens when their families and friends meet the unknown twins.

These shows are free to UAH students but any and all are welcome to come.

In 2005, UAH's theatre program came back to life when Harwell, a full-time theatre professor, was hired in the communication arts department. Productions started soon after. In 2006, Morton Hall Studio, the Black Box theatre, and the Theatre Minor/Cognate were

created. The Black Box theatre has housed eight shows, including "Crimes of the Heart" and "The Country Club." The Chan Auditorium in the Business Administration Building has housed 13 productions and three musicals, including "The Glass Menagerie" and "Little Shop of Horrors." The theatre department has also helped the music department produce two operas in Roberts Recital Hall, with a third opera taking place at the end of this month in Wilson Theatre.

UAH currently only has a 24 hour inter-disciplinary theatre minor. Students in the theatre program have many opportunities available to them, such as chances to travel, perform and work as interns. Students have performed at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center in New York City and had internships in places such as Urbana, Ill.

The four students who studied in Illinois worked with Mark Roberts, the executive producer and lead writer for "Two and a Half Men." He is also the creator of CBS's show "Mike and Molly." He has been hosted on campus twice.

"I adore UAH's theatre program," Scarlett Chandler, a theatre minor, said. "They cover a great variety of plays that keep it fresh and fun for the people in them, as well as the audiences watching them, no matter the time of year."

Two of those fresh and fun plays were original works by Mark Roberts.

The theatre honor society, Alpha Psi Omega, performed a second reader's theatre performance, "The Crucible," on Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall. The first per-

See THEATRE on Pg. 2

## Homecoming 2011 Full of Spirited Events

CASEY KALBER  
Staff Writer

From Oct. 10 - 15, the UAH campus will be buzzing with homecoming activities for students, alumni and the community.

This year, the theme is "ChargerFest." Favorite events, such as Muddy Mayhem, Charger Stomp and the LAN party will be featured as well as some new ones. There will also be contests such as Paint the Town Blue and a dodgeball tournament.

A new event is Spirit Links. Every day during the week of homecoming, students can buy links for their college for 25 cents each from tables in the UC. The college with the longest chain and the individual with the most purchased links will win a prize.

Muddy Mayhem will return this year to dirty up campus on Oct. 14. MM is an obstacle course full of fun challenges. Teams of two will compete in the following categories: first year, co-ed or single gender, and will have to use entertaining methods to complete the course.

One of UAH's biggest traditions is Midnight Madness, which officially starts the basketball season. Even though UAH does not have a football team to tailgate for, the fraternities and sororities welcome anyone for basketball tailgating on Oct. 14.

For more information about homecoming or to register for events, visit <http://uah.edu/homecoming> or email Kacey Schaum at [kacey.schaum@uah.edu](mailto:kacey.schaum@uah.edu).

## "Keep Friendship Alive" Rescheduled for Oct. 18

The "Keep Friendship Alive" lecture has been rescheduled to Oct. 18 at 8 p.m. in the UC Exhibit Hall. The lecture, originally scheduled for Sept. 8, will be presented by the organization's founder Erica Upshaw, and will focus on helping students make informed decisions about using alcohol and drugs. The goal of "Keep Friendship Alive" is to prevent senseless deaths from drugs and alcohol. The series was started in 2006.

## From FLU SHOTS on Pg. 1

son usually peaks around January and February. However, flu activity can be active as early as October and continue into late May.

Flu shots are also available at places such as drug stores and super markets. However, flu shots provided off-campus tend to be more costly than the shots available on campus.

For additional questions about the flu or the vaccine, come by the SHC in the UC 203 or visit the website at [www.uah.edu/SHC](http://www.uah.edu/SHC).

## The Exponent

Editor in Chief: ERIC MORGAN  
Managing Editor: HONOKA EGUCHI  
Copy Editor: KATE BLAKE  
Content Editor: RAYMOND GILSTRAP  
Business Manager: ALEXANDER HAZELWOOD  
Layout Assistant: JUSTIN MORROW

### Staff Writers:

ALEX LEWIS KARA MILLION  
MATT SAYAR CASEY KALBER  
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CHRISTIAN EDENFIELD SHELLY CARLYON  
STEPHANIE DAVIDSON JONATHAN KEENUM  
CHRISTINA NICHOLS KATSUNORI SUGIHARA  
CLAUDE BRIDGES CHARLOTTE ELLETT

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E-mail: [exponent.editor@gmail.com](mailto:exponent.editor@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://exponent.uah.edu/>  
Post: University Center #104, Huntsville, AL 35899  
Phone: (256) 273-9039

## Hockey Team Drops Contests in Western Michigan

JONATHAN KEENUM  
Staff Writer

The Charger hockey team opened the season with two very competitive one-goal losses against Lake Superior State before facing an extremely talented Western Michigan team this past weekend.

The number 13-ranked Broncos went all out on offense in the first period of the first game and proved too much for the Chargers. WMU scored on a power play just 33 seconds into the game, had another pair of quick strikes minutes later, and finally closed out the period with another goal, putting the Chargers in a 4-0 hole.

The Bronco defense also proved to be a tough matchup for UAH as the Chargers were outshot 29-11, with Mac Roy scoring the only goal in the contest. Freshman Ben Reinhardt and senior Jamie Easton offered assists on the goal.

Any momentum the Chargers had gained from the goal was removed early in the third period when the Broncos scored to go up 6-1. WMU added one more goal at the 12:23 mark to seal the game 7-1. The Chargers were also an uncharacteristic 0-6 on the power play for the night, which was one of the team's strong points last season.



Photo courtesy of UAH Athletics

Sophomore goalie Clarke Saunders turned in a nice performance for UAH in the second contest of the weekend, but with the team unable to provide an offensive support, the Chargers dropped the game 4-0. UAH fell behind early once again and was down 2-0 at the end of the first period.

The team came out of the locker rooms firing, recording the first four shots of the second period, but was unable to get anything past the Broncos' defense.

Saunders recorded his 11th career game with 30 or more saves as he prevented 37 of the Broncos' 41 shots on the night. His best performance in the game came in the third period when he turned away

all 14 shots he faced, as UAH was outshot 14-1. The Chargers were outshot 41-10 on the night.

The tough weekend puts UAH at 0-4 to open the season, but is also the last road test the Chargers will face for the next three weekends. The team is slated to take on Bowling Green this Friday and Saturday with the puck scheduled to drop at 7 p.m. both nights. UAH then welcomes Air Force the following weekend, and finally Ohio State comes to town the first weekend in November.

After the six home games, the Chargers will then hit the road until late December, when they return home to face Mercyhurst over New Year's weekend.

## UAH Soccer Teams Pick Up Big Wins

JONATHAN KEENUM  
Staff Writer

The UAH men's and women's soccer teams have had a very successful October so far, with both teams winning every match during this critical month of play.

The Chargers opened up conference play in style by shutting down Harding 2-0 at Charger Field on Oct. 7. The first goal for the Chargers came when junior Juan Salazar made a nice read to freshman Kyle Simmons. A defender misread the play that led to Simmons' ninth strike of the season.

"The defender made a mistake and missed the ball," Simmons said. "I was standing right there and chipped it in over the keeper."

Simmons currently leads the Gulf South Conference in goals and reached his 20th point of the year after this contest.

The Chargers continued their strong play Sunday with a 1-0 win against Ouachita Baptist. The shut-out marked junior Kel Markert's second consecutive clean sheet. It

was a tense match throughout, with 24 fouls and two cautions issued. Sophomore Felix Hjalmarsson had an impressive bicycle kick, but UAH was unable to score in the first half.

Hjalmarsson would not miss his next attempt as he took a nice pass from Oscar Leon in the 65th minute and put the ball in the back of the net in what would be the game-winning score for UAH.

The win marks the third consecutive victory for the Chargers and moves them to 7-3 on the year and 2-0 in conference play.

The Lady Chargers are also undefeated so far this month, thanks in part to two consecutive draws. UAH played to a 2-2 tie against West Georgia in a contest that saw the team playing all out so that they wouldn't fall to 0-2 in the conference. Sophomore Khadijah Jannah scored her third goal of the year after a nice pass from senior Tye Springer, but neither team could get off a good shot in over-

See SOCCER on Pg. 4

## Softball Team Looks Strong in Offseason

ALEX LEWIS  
Staff Writer

Since 1996, Coach Les Stuedeman has led a strong softball program at UAH, and during the offseason, the team plays as many games as possible for practice. Due to NCAA regulations, UAH is not allowed to play fellow Division II teams during the fall, so the team plays schools from Division I, III, NAIA and community colleges.

During this fall's offseason, the team started off with two 9-2 wins against Motlow State Community College on Sept. 24. The following weekend, on Oct. 2, the Chargers played a triple-header against Chattanooga State Community College.

The games against Chattanooga State resulted in two wins and one loss. In the first game, the Chargers defeated the Tigers with a 7-5 victory. The Chargers scored

five runs in the bottom of the first inning, flirting with a potential blowout until the fourth inning when Chattanooga State retaliated, scoring five runs to match the Chargers. In response, UAH scored two runs in the bottom of the fourth and ended the game with a final score of 7-5. Whitney Toler earned the win.

The second game resulted in a 6-2 win for the Chargers. Although the Tigers scored one run in the top of the first inning, the Chargers responded with a strong rally in the bottom of the first, scoring four runs. In the bottom of the second inning, UAH scored once again, and in the sixth inning, both teams scored one run each, with sophomore Whitney Gilbert taking the win.

The Chargers did not do as well in their third game, losing 11-

See SOFTBALL on Pg. 4

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## New Bookstore Serving UAH Proves to be Top Choice for Students

Everything costs you more these days. Food is expensive, tuition is always rising, and gas prices are getting ridiculous. Wouldn't it be nice if prices went down for once? Good news! Infinity College Bookstore recently opened on Holmes Avenue, just two minutes from campus.

Infinity College Bookstore sells and rents UAH textbooks at lower prices. You'll easily save 10% or more on the cost of textbooks at Infinity. Over the course of a college career, this could save the average student \$300-\$500!

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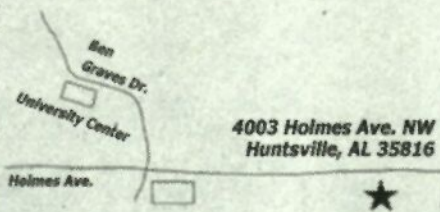


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**From PINK on Pg. 1**

spread. The hormones estrogen and progesterone are known to play a role in causing breast cancer. Estrogen can cause cancerous cells to double every 36 hours. A tumor needs an increase of blood and oxygen for a food supply. Progesterone causes stromal cells, the body's own cells, to send out signals so that more blood is sent to the tumor for food.

Currently, there is no cure for breast cancer. If breast cancer is detected early enough there are several treatments available. Surgery, radiation, chemotherapy and hormonal therapy are the most common treatment options.

Surgery and radiation focus on removing or destroying the cancerous cells. A lumpectomy removes the tumor and a little bit of tissue around it. A modified radical mastectomy removes the entire breast and some of the lymph nodes under the arm. A radical mastectomy removes the breast, the chest muscle and all the lymph nodes under the arm.

Chemotherapy and hormone treatments attempt to destroy cancer cells that have spread in the body. Chemotherapy uses drugs to slow the growth of the cancer or kill them. Hormone therapy stops the cancer from receiving the hormones it needs to grow and spread.

There is no way to be 100 per-

cent sure you will never get breast cancer, but there are methods to lower the risk. According to the Mayo Clinic, limiting alcohol intake, maintaining a healthy weight, exercising regularly, breast feeding, lowering or discontinuing hormone therapy and minimizing exposure to environmental pollutants can help decrease a risk of breast cancer.

Because breast cancer is a widespread illness, people all over the country are helping. Everyone from celebrities like Kim Kardashian to the local Publix down the street are donating money to research and treatment programs.

There are always online shops that offer part of their proceeds, such as the shop for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Susan G. Komen for the Cure online shop. The Susan G. Komen foundation also hosts walks and runs to raise money for the cure.

There are lots of ways for students to help or become involved. In addition to the online stores that are open year round, anything purchased with the pink breast cancer awareness ribbon on it during the month of October will help donate towards finding a cure. Another way to help is to organize or participate in a Race for the Cure. Many breast cancer awareness sites also have links on how to get involved.

For more information on breast cancer, treatments and getting involved, please visit [www.nbcam.org](http://www.nbcam.org) or [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org).

**From SOCCER on Pg. 3**

time, leading to the deadlock. The Lady Chargers were feeling confident after a 2-0 halftime lead in the next match, but Harding roared back in the second half and stunned UAH by going up 3-2. UAH was able to shake off the sudden burst by the opposition, and senior Luting Sun was able to tie the contest at 3-3 with her fourth goal of the season.

UAH had a couple of opportunities to pull ahead in the match but players placed their shots just a bit too high. Harding was unable to score as well, and the Lady Chargers picked up their second consecutive draw.

**From SOFTBALL on Pg. 3**

0. Senior Christina Boczeck started the third game, and until the fifth inning held Chattanooga State to a 1-0 lead. In the top of the fifth, the Tigers rallied and blazed through Boczeck and relief pitchers, junior Abby Mackay and sophomore Hannah Hogan.

After having a chance to score in the bottom of the fifth, UAH couldn't find the scoreboard and the game ended early as a result of the mercy rule.

The fall season ended this past Thursday with two wins over Calhoun Community College, a 14-0 victory and a 4-1 win. UAH had a total of six wins and only one loss. With so many new players, nine freshmen and two transfers, this

record is praiseworthy. This year, the team only lost four seniors: Krystal Johnson, Emily Roach, Sarah Nickey and Alex Lewis. However, with so many new players, the team requires some time to bond and adjust to playing together.

"We have a lot of good pieces to the puzzle, but this is a new year," Coach Stuedeman commented. "Last year, everything that could go right did and everything that could go wrong did not."

The outlook looks bright for the softball after a great offseason play. The chemistry between the returning players has not degraded, so the new people should have no problem becoming a member of a team that almost won a national championship last year.

tir stopped five shots in the contest and moved to 70 total blocks on the season. The current UAH record is 100, and with 5 games remaining on the year, Gunnarsdottir has a legitimate shot at making history.

Both teams continue conference play this Friday at Delta State and then Sunday at Christian Brothers. The next home game for the men is Oct. 19 against non-conference foe Concordia-Selma, with the final home game Oct. 30 against West Florida. The women return home Oct. 21 to take on rival North Alabama before also closing out the year at home against West Florida.

**From THEATRE on Pg. 2**

formance was "Killer Joe" on Sept. 21. APO is also hosting an improv night on Nov. 3.

Harwell holds a bachelor's of fine arts in theatre from Montevallo and a master's of fine arts in theatre design and technology from the University of Illinois. He has worked on projects ranging from MSNBC to a children's show on PBS. In 2001, he won an Emmy for best set design for his work on the children's show "Between the Lions."

For more information on the theatre department, please contact Harwell at [harweld@uah.edu](mailto:harweld@uah.edu), come by his office, Morton Hall, Room 325, or visit [theater.uah.edu/](http://theater.uah.edu/).

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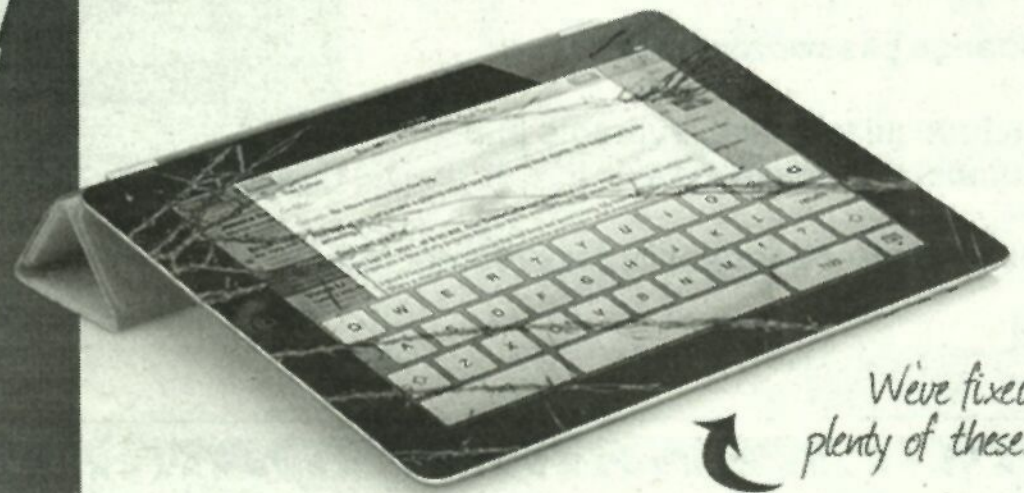
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